of State Police Forces for creation of basic minimum facilities for police women in police stations and units.

Solving Bodo problem

2578. SHRI DRUPAD BOROGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has got any proposal from Assam Government to solve the Bodo problem;

(b) whether this proposal is to form Bodo Territorial Council (BTC) Area on the basis of Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) Areas; and

(c) if BTC is formed, what necessary steps are proposed to be taken to safeguard the political, socio-economic, cultural, educational, land and language interests of Non-Bodos in the BTC Areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is committed to protect the democratic rights and the socio-economic interests of all sections of the society.

Facilities to personnels of retired para military forces

2579. SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the facilities available to retired armed personnel to the retired personnel of para military forces;

(b) whether Government are in receipt of any such representation to that effect; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The Government have received representations from CPMF personnel for granting ex-servicemen status and other related facilities like CSD Canteen etc. to CPMF personnel. This has been examined

by this Ministry. Ex-servicemen status to ex-army personnel is given primarily from the point of view of re-employment whereas CPMF personnel retire at the age of 57 years which is higher than that of army personnel and as such they cannot be equated to Ex-Army personnel. As regards demand for CSD canteen facilities, this Ministry duly examined it in consultation with Ministry of Defence. However, it has not been possible to extend the said facility to CPMF personnel due to resource constraints. However, in the matter of allotment of Petrol Pump/ LPG outlets, disabled/NOKs of CPMF personnel killed in action have since been made eligible and they are being accorded certain priority, which is similar to that of defence personnel.

Foreign students in Madarasas

†2580. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign students are also studying in Madarasas being run in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to restrict the number of such students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) As a policy, foreign students are not granted visas to study in Madarasas in the country. However, there are reports that some foreigners coming on short term visas join various Madarasas in the country for religious studies. Wherever such cases come to notice, action against the foreigners concerned is taken by the State Governments under the appropriate laws. Foreigners can come to India for theological studies only in the recognised universities/institutions for which

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.